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REPORT

ON THE STATE OF

PUBLIC HEALTH

IN THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF BUSHEY

URBAN DISTRICT OF CHORLEYWOOD

URBAN DISTRICT OF RICKMANSWORTH

RURAL DISTRICT OF WATFORD

IN THE COUNTY OF

HERTFORD

WILLIAM HARVEY, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1948



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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1948.

To

The Chairman and Members of :—

the Urban District Council of Bushey,

the Urban District Council of Chorleywood,

the Urban District Council of Rickmansworth,

and

the Rural District Council of Watford.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the state of the Public Health, and the reports by the Inspectors on the Sanitary Conditions, in the Districts, during the year ended 31st December, 1948.

The population on the area of the four Districts continues to increase at a high rate, largely owing to the development of the London County Council estate at South Oxhey. The Registrar-General's estimates at the 30th June and the 31st December, 1948, were :—Bushey 14,990 and 15,240 ; Chorleywood 4,530 and 4,568 ; Rickmansworth 24,920 and 25,160 ; and Watford Rural 25,740 and 28,430, giving totals at the two periods of 70,180 and 73,398, respectively. The corresponding total population at the middle of 1939 was 56,915. The increases in the populations from the middle

of 1947 to the end of 1948 were :—Bushey 930 ; Chorleywood 361 ; Rickmansworth 1,470 ; and Watford Rural 6,570. These rapid increases, and, particularly that in the Watford Rural District, have involved considerable extensions of the Sanitary Services which have been carried out in an efficient manner.

The Birth Rates, with the exception of that for Chorleywood, were considerably below those for 1947, when, however, they were unusually high. The Rates, with those for 1947 in brackets, were :—Bushey 16.2 (20.7), Chorleywood 14.1 (13.5), Rickmansworth 16.6 (21.7), and Watford Rural 12.9 (17.7). The actual number of live births was 1,057, of which 544 were boys and 513 girls.

The Infantile Mortality Rate, or the number of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births, was low in each District, viz. :—Bushey, 29 ; Chorleywood, 31 ; Rickmansworth, 24 ; and Watford Rural, 36, compared with the rate of 34 recorded for the whole of England and Wales.

The death-rates for the year were very low, viz. :—Bushey, 8.1 ; Chorleywood, 9.7 ; Rickmansworth, 8.5 ; and Watford Rural, 8.3 ; the rate for England and Wales was also exceptionally low at 10.8 persons per 1,000 of the population.

The incidence of the notifiable infectious diseases is analysed in detail in the report for each district. The year was generally a satisfactory one. There were 65 notifications of Scarlet Fever, compared with 60 in the previous year ; the disease was of a mild type. Whooping Cough was mildly prevalent during the second half of the year, and altogether, 193 cases were notified, compared with 116 in 1947. There were 355 notifications of Measles last year, compared with 536 in 1947 ; no deaths were recorded. There was

one mild case of Paratyphoid Fever in which the infection had been contracted abroad. The notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia and Ophthalmia Neonatorum recorded in Bushey were from a large maternity home receiving patients from outside the County.

There were five notifications of Poliomyelitis in 1948, compared, on the one hand, with 18 cases in 1947, and on the other, with the total of 8 cases during the whole of the previous ten years. It was mentioned in my report last year, that physical strain or fatigue immediately before, or during the early stages of the illness, may determine the severity of the paralysis which, incidentally, occurs in only a small percentage of the total cases of infection by the Poliomyelitis Virus. The same is also true of physical strain during the period of apparent recovery which sometimes takes place after the first few days of illness in this disease. During times when Poliomyelitis is prevalent, any indefinite illness or indisposition, especially in a young person, should be regarded as an indication for a longer period of rest and quietness in bed than might otherwise be the case.

An increasing amount of attention is being paid to the importance of safeguarding the food supply from infection. Two courses of lectures on Food Hygiene were held in the area during the year by the National Council for Health Education. There is room for improvement in the protection of food exposed for sale, and full use is not being made of the efficient cabinets and protective coverings now available.

A considerable amount of work has been done in connection with the inspection and registration of premises and machinery for the sale or manufacture of ice-cream.

The water supply of the District is derived from deep wells in the chalk ; it is adequate and chlorinated.

Work on the extermination of flies and mosquitoes was continued during the year ; and arrangements were considered for the administration of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, when this responsibility would be transferred to the Local Authorities.

The Sanitary work in the Districts, which was carried out with efficiency by the Inspectors, is given in detail under each report.

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I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM HARVEY.

Seventy-fifth Annual Report

5th December, 1949.

BUSHEY

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area of District (land and inland water), 3,866 acres.

Highest Point—London Road at Southern boundary, 506.7ft.

Lowest Point—Near River Colne, 179.2ft.
(above mean sea-level at Newlyn).

Number of structurally separate dwellings occupied, 1st April, 1949; 4,394.

Rateable value at 1st April, 1949; £133,928.

Sum represented by a penny-rate, £540.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar-General's estimates at mid-year) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
14,990	14,310	13,800	12,880	12,950	13,550	13,980	12,930

Birth-Rate (Live births per 1,000 of population) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
16.2	20.7	16.1	14.4	16.1	17.5	14.4	13.0

Infantile Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
29	27	13	43	38	38	30	48

Death-Rate.

Vide Summary "Causes of Death."

Tuberculosis.

The following notifications and deaths were recorded during the year :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
New cases	10	4
Deaths	3	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

1948

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polio-encephalitis		Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...			1						1	2		
1— ...	1		2	1					10	3		
3— ...		1	4	1					9	13		
5— ...	2	2	2	5	1				25	11		
10— ...		1							3	2		
15— ...		2										
25 and over									1			
TOTAL ...	3	6	9	7	1	—	—	—	49	31	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Ac. encephalitis lethargica		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...												
5— ...	1											
15— ...												
45— ...		1										
65 and over												
TOTAL ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal Fever		Typhus Fever		Other Notifiable Diseases			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...							Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	32
5— ...							Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	...	2	6
15— ...							Malaria	...	...	—
45— ...		1					Plague	...	...	—
65 and over							Relapsing Fever	...	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	1	—	—	—	—				

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

1948

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

				Males	Females					
All Causes ...	...	...	...	62	59	1948	...	...	8.1
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...				—	—	1947	...	...	9.8
2 Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...		—	—	1946	...	...	9.1
3 Scarlet Fever...	...	...	...	—	—	1945	...	...	10.6
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	1944	...	...	10.2
5 Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	—	—	1943	...	...	11.5
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System				3	—	1942	...	...	9.8
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	...			—	—	1941	...	...	10.6
8 Syphilitic Diseases	...	...		—	—	1940	...	...	9.7
9 Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	1939	...	...	7.9
10 Measles	...	...	...	—	—	1938	...	...	9.1
11 Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	...	...	...	—	—	1937	...	...	9.2
12 Ac. Infective Encephalitis	...			—	—	1936	...	...	8.2
13 Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (M) ; Uterus (F) ...				—	1	1935	...	...	9.5
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum				2	2	1934	...	...	8.6
15 Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	—	3	1933	...	...	9.7
16 Cancer of all other sites	...	...		12	3	1932	...	...	9.5
17 Diabetes	...	...	...	2	—	1931	...	...	8.9
18 Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions	...			4	8	1930	...	...	8.1
19 Heart Disease	...	...	...	18	20				
20 Other Diseases of Circulatory System				2	2					
21 Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	1				
22 Pneumonia	...	...	...	—	3	England and Wales			
23 Other Respiratory Diseases	...			2	—	1948	...	...	10.8
24 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...			1	3	1947	...	...	12.0
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...			—	—	1946	...	...	11.5
26 Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	—	1945	...	...	11.4
27 Other Digestive Diseases	...	...		—	1	1944	...	...	11.6
28 Nephritis	...	...	...	3	1	1943	...	...	12.1
29 Puerperal and post-abortal sepsis				—	—	1942	...	...	11.6
30 Other Maternal causes	...	...		—	—	1941	...	...	12.9
31 Premature birth	...	...	...	1	1	1940	...	...	14.6
32 Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	...			4	2	1939	...	...	12.1
33 Suicide	...	...	...	—	2	1938	...	...	11.6
34 Road Traffic Accidents	...	...		1	—	1937	...	...	12.4
35 Other violent causes	...	...		1	3	1936	...	...	12.1
36 All other causes	...	...		4	3				

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	... ... ... ... ... ...	217
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ... ...	45
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding section) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ... ... ... ... ...	149
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of action by the Local Authority	... ... ... ...	89
Number of structurally separate dwellings erected during the year :		
(1) By the Local Authority	... ...	40
(2) By other bodies or persons	... ...	65

Summary of Housing Defects.

The number of defects found on inspection is followed by the number remedied during the year.

SITE.	Cases Found	Cases Remedied	LIGHTING, VENTILATION.	Cases Found	Cases Remedied
(See also 8 and 14.)			(See also 31.)		
1. Outbuildings inadequate or in bad repair	5	3	14. Obstruction to light and air	4	3
2. Approach to back of house unsatisfactory	1	—	15. Window area or opening below standard	4	3
3. Storage of refuse unsatisfactory	6	4	16. Ventilation otherwise defective	6	6
4. Animals improperly kept	2	1	17. Artificial lighting defective	2	2
5. Vermin	27	†	SPACE HEATING.		
PREVENTION OF DAMPNESS.			18. Firegrate defective	9	7
6. Roof, chimney, defective	41	34	19. Rooms inadequately heated	3	3
7. Gutters, downpipes defective	56	35	FOOD, COOKING.		
8. Drainage of ground unsatisfactory	4	2	20. Storage of food unsatisfactory	2	2
9. Walls, doors, windows, defective	49	35	21. Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory	6	4
10. Damp-proof course defective	5	6	22. Sink and drainage unsatisfactory	6	4
11. Sub-floor ventilation defective	3	3	WATER SUPPLY.		
12. Solid floor defective	8	8	23. Water supply not satisfactory	—	—
13. Soil against walls above d.p.c.	2	1	24. Main supply disconnected	2	2
WASHING ARRANGEMENTS.			WASHING ARRANGEMENTS.		
25. No bath	...	2	25. No bath	...	2
26. Arrangements for heating water unsatisfactory	...	5	26. Arrangements for heating water unsatisfactory	...	4

† Complaints referred to County Council as the authority under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

	Cases Found Remedied			Cases Found Remedied	
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.				REPAIR, DECORATION, CLEANLINESS.	
27. Earth closet defective	—	—	31. Internal structures defective	115	93
28. Water closet, soil drains, defective ...	71	74	32. Decoration in bad state	38	37
29. Approach to outside closet not protected	—	—	33. Lack of cleanliness	7	4
30. Lighting, ventilation, inadequate ...	3	2	34. Infestation with bugs, etc. ...	8	7

INSANITARY HOUSES.

Repairs were carried out to a number of premises during the year, in order to render the houses fit for human habitation. The number of complaints received from occupiers concerning the condition of their homes was considerably less than in 1947, no doubt due to the easing of licensing restrictions.

Action was taken under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, concerning four premises, one of which was subsequently demolished, while Undertakings were accepted by the Council in the case of the others, and two of them were satisfactorily reconditioned.

During the year, a preliminary survey of the worst houses in the area was carried out, and the premises grouped under three headings. The first group, consisting of approximately 25 houses, are premises that should be dealt with as soon as possible under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, while the second group, consisting of 27 houses, might be considered for clearance procedure when the opportunity arises. The third group comprises premises that can be reconstructed, but not at a reasonable cost, and as such must be dealt with later under Section 11 of the Act. This group consists of approximately 50 premises.

CARAVANS.

On August 3rd, 1948, the Provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, concerning the licensing of caravans, came into operation in this district, following a request made to the Minister of Health by the Council. Nine licences were issued, all of which will expire on the 31st December, 1949.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated.

Swimming Pool.

SWIMMING BATH WATER.

Nine samples of Swimming Bath water were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination during the summer months. These all proved satisfactory.

Milk Supply.

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Samples of designated milks were regularly taken and one dairyman took steps to instal a pasteurising plant, but this was not completed by the end of the year. No special action was necessary with regard to the milk supply of the district. One dairyman carried out a major reconstruction of his buildings.

Inspection of Food.

Seventy-two visits were made to various food premises throughout the district, including eight visits to the two premises in which small quantities of ice cream are manufactured. Where necessary, suitable action was taken to improve the hygienic standards of the premises, including major reconstruction of two premises.

The following is a summary of the food condemned during 1948 :—

76 lbs. carcase meat, 52 lbs. rolled oats, 15 tins fish, 54 tins milk, 18 lbs. sausages, 45 lbs. cheese, 84 tins vegetables, 75 tins miscellaneous foods, 115 lbs. fish, 52 tins meat, 36 tins fruit.

No regular slaughtering of animals for food takes place within the district.

During 1948 local food traders were all invited to a special course of instruction arranged by the Central Council for Health Education, but this was very poorly attended.

Disinfection (1), Disinfestation (2).

Number of cases (1) 31, (2) 18* Total 49

VERMIN.

Regular visits were made to the Council's Tip during the year and, when necessary, suitable action taken regarding fly infestation, Gammexane dust being used for this purpose.

All but one case concerning infestation with bugs or other insects were satisfactorily disinfested.

An approach was made to this Authority by the Herts County Council, with a view to delegation being accepted by this Council, concerning powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Negotiations were taking place at the end of the year, and the suggestion of delegation was agreed upon in principle.

Public Cleansing.

Contract scheme. Vehicles employed—two low-loading motor vehicles with metal covers and back sliding shutters. Disposal by controlled tipping.

*Including 11 treatments of Council's refuse—disposal works.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	6	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	54	44	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	60	50	5	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	3	2	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	2	—	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	8	4	—	2	—

Outworkers SS.110 and 111 :—Number, 4. Notices, etc., None.

CHORLEYWOOD

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area of District (land and inland water), 2,055 acres.

Highest Point—Near water tower at the Swillet, 410.6ft.

Lowest Point—Junction of Meadow Way and Belfry Lane, 160.3ft.
(above mean sea-level at Newlyn).

Number of structurally separate dwellings occupied at 1st April, 1949, 1,353.

Rateable value at 1st April, 1949, £54,962.

Sum represented by a penny-rate, £225.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar-General's estimates at mid-year) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
4,530	4,207	4,058	3,967	4,101	4,477	5,128	3,775

Birth-Rate (live births per 1,000 of population) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
14.1	13.5	19.0	13.1	17.1	11.2	9.0	9.0

Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
31	52	39	19	14	40	64	29

Death-Rate :

Vide Summary "Causes of Death."

Tuberculosis.

The following notifications and deaths were recorded during the year :—

	New cases	Deaths	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	—	2	—	—
	—	1	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

1948

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polioencephalitis		Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
0— ...													
1— ...			4	3									
3— ...			2	3							1		
5— ...	1	3	8								1	2	
10— ...			1										
15— ...													
25 and over			1										
TOTAL ...	—	1	10	15	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	
AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Ac. encephalitis lethargica		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
0— ...													
5— ...													
15— ...													
45— ...													
65 and over													
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
AGE GROUPS	Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal Fever		Typhus Fever		Other Notifiable Diseases					M	F
	M	F	M	F	M	F	Puerperal Pyrexia	M	F
0— ...							Ophthalmia Neonatorum					—	—
5— ...							Malaria	—	—
15— ...							Plague	—	—
45— ...							Relapsing Fever	—	—
65 and over													
TOTAL ...	—	—	—	—	—	—							

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

1948

	All Causes ...	... ... ...	Males 25	Females 19	DEATH-RATE			
					1948	... ...	... ...	9.7
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers...	...	—	—	1947	... ...	... ...	14.0
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	... ...	—	—	1946	... ...	... ...	12.6
3	Scarlet Fever...	... ...	—	—	1945	... ...	... ...	9.3
4	Whooping Cough	... ...	—	—	1944	... ...	... ...	11.2
5	Diphtheria	... ...	—	—	1943	... ...	... ...	13.0
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	—	1	1942	... ...	... ...	10.7
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	—	—	1941	... ...	... ...	10.3
8	Syphilitic Diseases	... ...	—	—	1940	... ...	... ...	9.7
9	Influenza	... ...	—	—	1939	... ...	... ...	9.6
10	Measles	... ...	—	—	1938	... ...	... ...	9.9
11	Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	... ...	—	—	1937	... ...	... ...	10.5
12	Ac. Infective Encephalitis	...	—	—	1936	... ...	... ...	9.7
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (M) ; Uterus (F) ...	...	1	—	1935	... ...	... ...	7.7
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	1	—	1934	... ...	... ...	10.3
15	Cancer of Breast	... ...	—	3	1933	... ...	... ...	6.7
16	Cancer of all other sites	... ...	7	1	1932	... ...	... ...	10.9
17	Diabetes	... ...	—	1	1931	... ...	... ...	8.4
18	Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions	...	1	3	1930	... ...	... ...	6.9
19	Heart Disease	... ...	8	7				
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	1	—				
21	Bronchitis	... ...	—	—	England and Wales			
22	Pneumonia	... ...	1	1	1948	... ...	... ...	10.8
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	—	—	1947	... ...	... ...	12.0
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	—	—	1946	... ...	... ...	11.5
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	—	—	1945	... ...	... ...	11.4
26	Appendicitis	... ...	—	—	1944	... ...	... ...	11.6
27	Other Digestive Diseases	...	—	—	1943	... ...	... ...	12.1
28	Nephritis	... ...	1	—	1942	... ...	... ...	11.6
29	Puerperal and post-abortal sepsis	—	—	—	1941	... ...	... ...	12.9
30	Other Maternal causes	... ...	—	—	1940	... ...	... ...	14.6
31	Premature birth	... ...	—	—	1939	... ...	... ...	12.1
32	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	... ...	2	—	1938	... ...	... ...	11.6
33	Suicide	... ...	—	—	1937	... ...	... ...	12.4
34	Road Traffic Accidents	...	—	—	1936	... ...	... ...	12.1
35	Other violent causes	... ...	—	1				
36	All other causes	... ...	2	1				

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding section) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of action by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Number of structurally separate dwellings erected during the year :									
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Summary of Housing Defects.

The number of defects found on inspection is followed by the number remedied during the year.

SITE.	Cases Found	Cases Remedied	Cases Found	Cases Remedied
(See also 8 and 14.)				
1. Outbuildings inadequate or in bad repair	...	—	12. Solid floor defective	—
2. Approach to back of house unsatisfactory	—	—	13. Soil against walls above d.p.c.	... —
3. Storage of refuse unsatisfactory	...	6	LIGHTING, VENTILATION.	
4. Animals improperly kept	...	—	(See also 31.)	
5. Vermin	...	—	14. Obstruction to light and air	... —
PREVENTION OF DAMPNESS.			15. Window area or opening below standard	... —
6. Roof, chimney, defective	...	18	16. Ventilation otherwise defective	... 6 6
7. Gutter, downpipes, defective	...	27	17. Artificial lighting defective	... 11 11
8. Drainage of ground unsatisfactory	...	12	SPACE HEATING.	
9. Walls, doors, windows, defective	...	1	18. Firegrate defective	32 31
10. Damp-proof course defective	...	—	19. Rooms inadequately heated	... —
11. Sub-floor ventilation defective	...	—	FOOD, COOKING.	
			20. Storage of food unsatisfactory	... 2 2
			21. Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory	— —
			22. Sink and drainage unsatisfactory	... 12 12

		Cases		Cases	
		Found	Remedied	Found	Remedied
WATER SUPPLY.					
23. Well not satisfactory	...	1	1	29. Water closet, soil drains, defective ...	8 8
24. Water delivered in vessels	... ...	1	1	30. Approach to outside closet not protected	— —
25. Main supply disconnected	... ...	1	1	31. Lighting, ventilation, inadequate	... 1 1
WASHING ARRANGEMENTS.					
26. No bath	... ...	1	1	REPAIR, DECORATION, CLEANLINESS.	
27. Arrangements for heating water unsatisfactory	... ...	13	12	32. Internal structures, defective	... 9 7
28. Earth closet defective	... ...	—	—	33. Decoration in bad state	... 15 12
				34. Lack of cleanliness	— —
				35. Infestation with bugs, etc.	... — —
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.					

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated.

Milk Supply.

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Disinfection (1), Disinfestation (2).

Number of cases	(1)	2	(2)	1	Total	3

Public Cleansing.

Direct Labour. Vehicles Employed—One motor vehicle with sliding metal covers. Disposal by Controlled Tipping.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	8	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	13	14	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	21	22	—	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	1	1	—	—	—

Outworkers SS.110 and 111 :—Number, 2. Notices, etc., Nil.

RICKMANSWORTH

URBAN DISTRICT

General.

Area (land and inland water), 7,639 acres.

Number of structurally separate dwellings occupied at 1st April, 1949; 7,286

Rateable value at 1st April, 1949, £224,071.

Sum represented by a penny-rate, £916.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar-General's estimates at mid-year) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
24,920	23,690	23,060	21,870	22,440	23,660	25,430	19,930

Birth-Rate (live births per 1,000 of population) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
16.6	21.7	20.2	15.3	17.8	17.3	12.8	18.8

Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
24	31	34	27	30	29	69	32

Death-Rate :

Vide Summary "Causes of Death."

Tuberculosis.

The following notifications and deaths were recorded during the year :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
New cases	14	8
Deaths	3	3

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

1948

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polio-encephalitis		Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...		1	6	3					4	2		
1— ...			9	5					14	22		
3— ...	1	1	14	18					10	18		
5— ...	5	5	15	11			1		32	19	1	
10— ...	2	16	1	2					1	2		
15— ...	1	3							1			
25 and over	1		1	1					1	1		
TOTAL ...	10	26	46	40	—	1	—	—	63	64	1	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Ac. encephalitis lethargica		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...												
5— ...												
15— ...		1										1
45— ...												
65 and over												
TOTAL ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

AGE GROUPS	Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal Fever		Typhus Fever		Other Notifiable Diseases				M	F	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	Puerperal Pyrexia...	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Malaria	Plague	Relapsing Fever		
0— ...													
5— ...													
15— ...		1											
45— ...													
65 and over	2												
TOTAL ...	—	3	—	—	—	—							

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

1948

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

				Males	Females						
				104	109			1948	...	...	8.5
All Causes ...	...	...	...	104	109			1948	...	...	8.5
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...			—	—			1947	...	...	9.9
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	—	1			1946	...	...	8.1
3	Scarlet Fever...	...	...	—	—			1945	...	...	10.1
4	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—			1944	...	...	9.8
5	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—			1943	...	...	10.1
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System			3	3			1942	...	...	8.7
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...		1	—			1941	...	...	8.5
8	Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	—	—			1940	...	...	8.3
9	Influenza	...	...	—	1			1939	...	...	8.5
10	Measles	...	...	—	—			1938	...	...	7.9
11	Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	...	...	—	—			1937	...	...	6.7
12	Ac. Infective Encephalitis	...		—	—			1936	...	...	8.6
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (M) ; Uterus (F) ...	...		—	1			1935	...	...	10.0
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum			4	2			1934	...	...	9.2
15	Cancer of Breast	...	...	—	3			1933	...	...	11.1
16	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	12	12			1932	...	...	10.4
17	Diabetes	...	...	—	—			1931	...	...	10.1
18	Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions	...		12	26			1930	...	...	9.3
19	Heart Disease	...	...	25	24						
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System			6	9						
21	Bronchitis	...	...	1	2						
22	Pneumonia	...	...	6	5			England and Wales			
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	...		2	—			1948	...	...	10.8
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...		4	1			1947	...	...	12.0
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...		—	—			1946	...	...	9.2
26	Appendicitis	...	...	1	1			1945	...	...	11.4
27	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	4	2			1944	...	...	11.6
28	Nephritis	...	...	2	1			1943	...	...	12.1
29	Puerperal and post-abortal sepsis			—	—			1942	...	...	11.6
30	Other Maternal causes	...	...	—	—			1941	...	...	12.9
31	Premature birth	...	...	—	2			1940	...	...	14.6
32	Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	...	...	5	2			1939	...	...	12.1
33	Suicide	...	...	3	1			1938	...	...	11.6
34	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	1	—			1937	...	...	12.4
35	Other violent causes	...	...	3	2			1936	...	...	12.1
36	All other causes	...	...	9	8						

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	203
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding section) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	187
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of action by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Number of structurally separate dwellings erected during the year :									
(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	167
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

Summary of Housing Defects.

The number of defects found on inspection is followed by the number remedied during the year.

SITE.		Cases Found	Cases Remedied		Cases Found	Cases Remedied
	(See also 8 and 14.)					
1. Outbuildings inadequate or in bad repair	... ...	6	4	12. Solid floor defective	5	4
2. Approach to back of house unsatisfactory	2	2	13. Soil against walls above d.p.c.	...	1	1
3. Storage of refuse unsatisfactory	... 21	18	LIGHTING, VENTILATION.			
4. Animals improperly kept	... 2	1	(See also 31.)			
5. Vermin	... 70	†	14. Obstruction to light and air	... ...	—	—
PREVENTION OF DAMPNESS.			15. Window area or opening below standard	... ...	1	1
6. Roof, chimney, defective	... 26	19	16. Ventilation otherwise defective	... —	—	—
7. Gutters, downpipes, s-w drains, defective	13	10	17. Artificial lighting defective	... —	—	—
8. Drainage of ground unsatisfactory	... —	—	SPACE HEATING.			
9. Walls, doors, windows, defective	... 46	19	18. Firegrate defective	8	5	
10. Damp-proof course defective	... 21	15	19. Rooms inadequately heated	... —	—	—
11. Sub-floor ventilation defective	... 8	8	FOOD, COOKING.			
			20. Storage of food unsatisfactory	... 6	4	
			21. Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory	10	7	
			22. Sink and drainage unsatisfactory	... 12	9	

† Complaints referred to County Council as the authority under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

		Cases Found	Remedied		Cases Found	Remedied
WATER SUPPLY.						
23. Well not satisfactory	1	1		29. Water closet, soil drains, defective ...	22	16
24. Water delivered in vessels	... ...	—	—	30. Approach to outside closet not protected	—	—
25. Main supply disconnected	... ...	1	—	31. Lighting, ventilation, inadequate	... 2	1
WASHING ARRANGEMENTS.						
26. No bath	...	—	—	REPAIR, DECORATION, CLEANLINESS.		
27. Arrangements for heating water unsatisfactory	...	—	—	32. Internal structures defective	... 47	36
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.				33. Decoration in bad state	... 43	32
28. Earth closet defective	... ...	2	2	34. Lack of cleanliness	2	2
				35. Infestation with bugs, etc.	... 11	11

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated.

Milk Supply.

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Notices	6

Disinfection (1), Disinfestation (2).

Number of cases	(1)	30,	(2)	11	Total	41
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Public Cleansing.

Direct labour scheme Disposal by controlled tipping. Efficient salvage scheme in operation since April, 1938.

Canal Boats, Inspection of

Number of boats inspected	...	27	Contraventions	...	5
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ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	13	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	56	72	11	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	66	85	14	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	10	7	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	14	10	—	—	—

Outworkers SS.110 and 111 : Number, 1 ; Notices, etc., 0.

WATFORD

RURAL DISTRICT

General.

Area (land and inland water). 18,179 acres.

(Abbots Langley C.P., 4,979 ; Aldenham C.P., 5,660 ; Sarratt C.P., 2,399 ; Watford Rural C.P., 5,141 ; acres.)

Number of structurally separate dwellings occupied at 1st April, 1949; 7,055

Rateable value at 1st April, 1949; £225,923.

Sum represented by a penny-rate; £941.

Vital Statistics.

Population (Registrar-General's estimates at mid-year) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
25,740	21,860	21,360	20,370	20,650	24,660	26,140	20,280

Birth-Rate (live births per 1,000 of population) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
12.9	17.7	16.9	17.2	19.2	13.5	11.0	13.9

Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) :

1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1942	1941	1939
36	25	17	26	18	24	38	56

Death-Rate :

Vide Summary "Causes of Death."

Tuberculosis.

The following notifications and deaths were recorded during the year :—

	New cases	Deaths	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
			Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	13	2	3	2
	8	4	—	2

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX

1948

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polioencephalitis		Measles (Exc. Rubella)		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...			1	1						1		
1— ...			4	7			1		9	9		
3— ...	4	2	5	5					14	26		
5— ...	3	4	10	10					44	32		
10— ...	4			1			1		2	1		
15— ...	1	1					1			5		
25 and over										1		
TOTAL ...	12	7	20	24	—	3	—	—	69	75	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Ac. encephalitis lethargica		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fevers	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— ...		1										
5— ...	2	1										
15— ...	2											
45— ...	1		1									
65 and over			1									
TOTAL ...	5	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

AGE GROUPS	Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal Fever		Typhus Fever		Other Notifiable Diseases				M	F	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	Puerperal Pyrexia...	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Malaria	Plague	Relapsing Fever		
0— ...							...	...	...	...	...
5— ...	1												
15— ...													
45— ...		2							...	...	...
65 and over													
TOTAL ...	1	2	—	—	—	—							

THE CAUSES OF DEATH

1948

DEATH-RATE

(Deaths per 1,000 of population)

				Males	Females	1948	...	...	8.3
All Causes ...	...	...	...	110	104	1948	...	...	8.3
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...				—	—	1947	...	...	11.3
2 Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...		—	—	1946	...	...	10.1
3 Scarlet Fever...	...	...	...	—	—	1945	...	...	9.9
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	1944	...	...	9.3
5 Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	—	—	1943	...	...	9.1
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System				8	4	1942	...	...	9.6
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	...			—	2	1941	...	...	10.0
8 Syphilitic Diseases	...	...		—	—	1940	...	...	10.1
9 Influenza ...	...	...	...	1	—	1939	...	...	8.8
10 Measles ...	...	...	...	—	—	1938	...	...	7.9
11 Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	...	...	...	—	1	1937	...	...	10.6
12 Ac. Infective Encephalitis	...			1	—	1936	...	...	8.3
13 Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (M) ; Uterus (F)...	...			1	2	1935	...	...	8.7
14 Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum				2	2	1934	...	...	8.6
15 Cancer of Breast ...	...	...	...	—	4	1933	...	...	10.3
16 Cancer of all other sites	...	...		11	12	1932	...	...	9.6
17 Diabetes ...	...	...	...	—	1	1931	...	...	8.4
18 Intra-Cranial Vascular lesions	...			3	17	1930	...	...	7.6
19 Heart Disease ...	...	...	...	36	35	—	—	—	—
20 Other Diseases of Circulatory System				9	3				
21 Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	3	2	England and Wales			
22 Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	2	4	1948	...	...	10.8
23 Other Respiratory Diseases	...			3	—	1947	...	...	12.0
24 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...			4	1	1946	...	...	11.5
25 Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...			—	—	1945	...	...	11.4
26 Appendicitis ...	...	...	...	—	—	1944	...	...	11.6
27 Other Digestive Diseases	...	...		—	2	1943	...	...	12.1
28 Nephritis ...	...	...	...	2	4	1942	...	...	11.6
29 Puerperal and post-abortal sepsis				—	—	1941	...	...	12.9
30 Other Maternal causes	...	...		—	—	1940	...	...	14.6
31 Premature birth ...	...	...	...	1	—	1939	...	...	12.1
32 Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases ...	...			8	2	1938	...	...	11.6
33 Suicide ...	...	...	...	—	1	1937	...	...	12.4
34 Road Traffic Accidents	...	...		3	—	1936	...	...	12.1
35 Other violent causes	...	...		2	1				
36 All other causes ...	...	...	...	10	4				

Housing Statistics.

Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	... ... ... ... ... ... ...	163
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ... ...	—
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding section) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ... ... ... ... ... ...	48
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of action by the Local Authority	... ... ... ... ... ...	32
Number of structurally separate dwellings erected during the year:		
(1) By the Local Authority	... ... ...	65
(2) By other bodies or persons	... ...	1,074*

*Private enterprise (licences), 24; Watford Borough, 157; London County Council, 893.

Summary of Housing Defects.

The number of defects found on inspection is followed by the number remedied during the year.

SITE. <i>(See also 8 and 14.)</i>	Cases Found Remedied		Cases Found Remedied
	13.	Soil against walls above d.p.c.	
1. Outbuildings inadequate or in bad repair	—	—	4 2
2. Approach to back of house unsatisfactory	1	1	— —
3. Storage of refuse unsatisfactory	90	81	— —
4. Animals improperly kept	2	2	— —
5. Vermin	—	—	— —
 PREVENTION OF DAMPNESS.			
6. Roof, chimney, defective	20	12	— —
7. Gutters, downpipes, s-w drains, defective	18	9	— —
8. Drainage of ground unsatisfactory	3	3	— —
9. Walls, doors, windows, defective	33	19	— —
10. Damp-proof course defective	4	3	— —
11. Sub-floor ventilation defective	—	—	— —
12. Solid floor defective	1	1	20 16
 LIGHTING, VENTILATION. <i>(See also 31.)</i>			
13. Soil against walls above d.p.c.	—	—	— —
14. Obstruction to light and air	—	—	— —
15. Window area or opening below standard	—	—	— —
16. Ventilation otherwise defective	—	—	— —
17. Artificial lighting defective	—	—	— —
 SPACE HEATING.			
18. Firegrate defective	3	1	— —
19. Rooms inadequately heated	—	—	— —
 FOOD, COOKING.			
20. Storage of food unsatisfactory	—	—	— —
21. Cooking arrangements unsatisfactory	—	—	— —
22. Sink and drainage unsatisfactory	20	16	— —

	Cases Found Remedied		Cases Found Remedied	
WATER SUPPLY.				
23. Well not satisfactory	—	—	29. Water closet, soil drains, defective ...	30 25
24. Water delivered in vessels	— —	30. Approach to outside closet not protected	— —
25. Main supply disconnected	1 1	31. Lighting, ventilation, inadequate	... — —
WASHING ARRANGEMENTS.				
26. No bath	—	—	REPAIR, DECORATION, CLEANLINESS	
27. Arrangements for heating water unsatisfactory	— —	32. Internal structures, defective ...	37 22
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.			33. Decoration in bad state	5 4
28. Earth closet defective	9 8	34. Lack of cleanliness	4 4
			35. Infestation with bugs, etc. ...	4 4

Water Supply.

The water supply of the District is adequate and chlorinated.

Milk Supply.

(a) Designated milks		Producers	Distributors
Tuberculin Tested ...	...	...	11 12
Accredited ...	...	...	6 1
Pasteurised ...	...	...	1 10
(b) Non-designated milk ...	...	30	43
Number of inspections ...	77	Notices ...	10

ICE-CREAM.

Number of premises registered :—

(a) for Manufacture...	...	1	(b) for Sale ...	17
Number of inspections ...	22	Notices ...	3	

Meat and Other Foods.

Number of Pigs inspected, 21 ; Number condemned, whole, 0 ; part, 0.

The following is a summary of the Food condemned during the year :—

138 lbs. carcase meat, 22 tins milk, 191 lbs. milk powder, 28 lbs fish (wet), (canned) 10 tins, 111 tins meat, 90 tins vegetables, 112 lbs. potatoes, 12 tins fruit, jam, etc., 87 lbs. prunes and dates, 32 lbs. sausages, 60 lbs. miscellaneous.

Disinfection (1), Disinfestation (2).

Number of cases	(1)	29.	(2)	4	Total	33
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Public Cleansing.

(a) Refuse collection—direct labour schemes are in operation in all four parishes of the District. Vehicles employed number seven modern type side loading refuse collection vehicles, each of 10 cu. yds. capacity.

Additional vehicles and staff have been required to cope with the development on the new L.C.C. Housing Estate at South Oxhey, and it is anticipated that a further expansion of the service will be necessary as development proceeds.

(b) Refuse disposal—two tipping sites are available in the District, one at Abbots Langley and one at Aldenham. Tip attendants are employed to supervise and to control tipping.

(c) Cesspool emptying—direct labour scheme in operation covers the whole district. Vehicle used is a Dennis 800 gallon cesspool emptying vehicle. Disposal of contents is as far as possible into sewers in area, otherwise by discharge on farm land.

(d) Emptying of Pail Closets—carried out by direct labour, in parishes of Abbots Langley and Aldenham, and by contract in remainder of district. Pail closets are emptied weekly.

(e) Collection of Salvage—Waste paper collection carried out simultaneously with refuse collection over whole of District. Other waste materials reclaimed from refuse by tip attendants.

Canal Boats, Inspection of

Number of boats inspected	...	8	Contraventions	...	—
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ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	5	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	37	42	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	42	47	4	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	4	4	—	—	—

Outworkers SS.110 and 111.—Number, ; Notices, etc.,

